Stanford



Amy D. Dobberfuhl, MD, MS

Assistant Professor of Urology

CLINICAL OFFICE (PRIMARY)

- **Urology Clinic**

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Bio

CLINICAL FOCUS

- Pelvic Reconstruction, Neurourology & Voiding Dysfunction
- Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor-Univ Med Line, Urology
- Member, Wu Tsai Human Performance Alliance
- Member, Maternal & Child Health Research Institute (MCHRI)

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Basic Science Research Program Committee, Society of Urodynamics, Female Pelvic Medicine & Urogenital Reconstruction (SUFU), (2025-present)
- Committee for Developing an IC/BPS Registry, Global Consensus IC/BPS, (2025-2025)
- ICICJ Executive Board, International Consultation on Interstitial Cystitis Japan (ICICJ), (2024-2024)
- Education Committee, International Continence Society (ICS), (2016-2024)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2nd Place Best Poster Award (Effects of sleep deprivation on mice micturition patterns), SWIU 2026 Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN (2026 (01/30))
- The Steven B. Streem Lectureship 2025 Visiting Professor, Albany Medical College, Dept. of Urology, Albany, NY (2025 (03/12))
- Top 10 Basic Science Abstract (Peripheral circadian rhythms of bladder in patients with nocturia), SUFU 2023 Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN (2023 (03/08))
- Best Poster Award (Novel Technique Pelvic Floor Trigger Point Injections Electrical Stimulation), SWIU 2023 Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ (2023 (01/27))
- Basic Science Poster Award (Poster #BS20 Intradetrusor iPSC pSMC Treatment Rat Radiation Cystitis), SUFU 2019 Annual Meeting, Miami, FL (2019 (02/26))
- 3rd Place in Category Prize (Poster Session 1 #15 Targeting Bladder Trigone in Cadaver), WSAUA 2018 Annual Meeting, Maui, HI (2018 (10/28))

- Visiting Lecture (Management of Acute and Late Stage Complications of Radiation on Bladder), Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment Peak Forum, Tongji Medical College, Wuhan, Hubei, China (2018 (10/13))
- Best in Category Prize (S23 Podium #443 Large Capacity Bladder after Prolapse Repair), ICS 2018 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (2018 (08/30))
- Best Poster (MP33-12 Voiding Efficiency Following Correction Bladder Outlet Obstruction in Women), AUA 2018 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (2018 (05/19))
- Early-Career Investigators Showcase (Pelvic Irradiation Induces Two Phenotypes - OAB vs UAB), AUA 2018 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (2018 (05/19))
- Research Travel Award (Radiation Induced Bladder Dysfunction in the Rat), Basic Sciences Symposium. AUA 2017 Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. (2017 (05/12))
- Best Clinical Research Award (Isometric Detrusor Reserve Predicts Spontaneous Void after TURP), Congress of Urologic Research and Education on Aging Underactive Bladder (CURE-UAB), Washington D.C. (2017 (03/09))
- Travel Scholarship. CURE-UAB 2017 Meeting., Congress of Urologic Research and Education on Aging Underactive Bladder (CURE-UAB), Washington D.C. (2017 (03/09))
- Spectrum KL2 Scholar, Stanford Clinical and Translational Science Award (2016-2018), Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA (2016 (07/01))
- Best Resident Research Award (2014 - 2015), Albany Medical College, Div. of Urology, Albany, NY (2015 (06/19))
- 1st Place National Chief Resident Debate (Bladder Exstrophy: Argument for Modern Staged Repair), American Urological Association, 2015 Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA (2015 (05/17))
- Best Resident Teaching Award (2013 - 2014), Albany Medical College, Div. of Urology, Albany, NY (2014 (06/20))
- 2nd Place Resident Debate (Orchiopexy Retractile Testicle: Argument for Surgery), Northeast Section American Urological Association, 65th Annual Meeting, Saratoga Springs, NY (2013 (11/02))
- 2nd Place Prize Essay Contest (Model of pelvic floor dysfunction after pelvic floor stimulation), Northeast Section American Urological Association, 65th Annual Meeting, Saratoga Springs, NY (2013 (11/01))
- Best Resident Research Award (2012 - 2013), Albany Medical College, Div. of Urology, Albany, NY (2013 (06/21))
- 3rd Place Basic Science Competition (Loss renal protein phosphatase obstructive uropathy), 18th Annual Urology Resident Research Day, Skaneateles, NY (2013 (04/20))
- 1st Place Prize Essay Contest (PPM1A and TGF-beta/SMAD signalling obstructive uropathy), Northeast Section American Urological Association, 64th Annual Meeting, Niagara Falls, Ontario (2012 (09/14))
- 1st Place Resident Debate (Acute versus Delayed Prosthesis after Priapism), 17th Annual Urology Resident Research Day, Skaneateles, NY (2012 (04/21))

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Member, American Urological Association (2011 - present)
- Member, Society of Women in Urology (2011 - present)
- Member, Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (2014 - present)
- Member, World Professional Association for Transgender Health (2015 - present)
- Member, International Continence Society (2016 - present)
- Member, Western Section American Urological Association (2018 - present)
- Member, Society of Urodynamics, Female Pelvic Medicine & Urogenital Reconstruction (2018 - present)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Board Certification: Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery, American Board of Urology (2022)
- Board Certification, Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS / URPS) (2022)
- Board Certification, The American Board of Urology (2021)
- Master of Science, Stanford University Division of Epidemiology , CA (2018)
- Fellowship: Stanford University Dept of Urology (2017) CA
- Residency: Albany Medical College Urologic Surgery Residency (2015) NY
- Residency: Albany Medical College General Surgery Residency (2011) NY

- Medical Education: University of North Carolina School of Medicine (2010) NC
- Bachelor of Science, North Carolina State University , NC (2004)

LINKS

- Dobberfuhl Lab: https://med.stanford.edu/dobberfuhl-lab.html

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Dr. Amy Dobberfuhl is a board certified fellowship-trained urologist and Assistant Professor of Urology (University Medical Line) with additional board certification in Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery [URPS / formerly Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS)]. Dr. Dobberfuhl, received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University in 2004, an M.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine in 2010, and completed residency training in Urology at Albany Medical College in New York in 2015. Dr. Dobberfuhl then completed an ACGME fellowship in URPS/FPMRS with a special emphasis on Neurourology & Voiding Dysfunction, in the Department of Urology at Stanford University in 2017. Dr. Dobberfuhl was also awarded the KL2 component of the Stanford Clinical and Translation Science Award to Spectrum (NIH 5KL2TR001083) and completed an M.S. in Epidemiology and Clinical Research at Stanford University in 2018. Following fellowship in 2017 Dr. Dobberfuhl joined the Department of Urology to begin clinical practice and establish their laboratory research program.

Dr. Dobberfuhl's clinical practice includes Pelvic Reconstruction, Neurourology, and Voiding Dysfunction. Dr. Dobberfuhl's clinical research focus includes: Interstitial Cystitis / Bladder Pain Syndrome (IC/BPS), Nocturia, Urinary tract infection (UTI), Sex differences in lower urinary tract dysfunction, Radiation cystitis, and Overactive bladder (OAB).

As a surgeon-scientist Dr. Dobberfuhl has established their own laboratory research program with a basic science and translational research focus including special interest in Nocturia and Circadian Rhythms, as well as IC/BPS as outlined on the Dobberfuhl Lab website.

CLINICAL TRIALS

- Transvaginal Botulinum Toxin A Chemodenervation for Overactive Bladder, Not Recruiting
- Transvaginal Botulinum Toxin A for Interstitial Cystitis / Bladder Pain Syndrome, Not Recruiting

Teaching

STANFORD ADVISEES

Med Scholar Project Advisor

Jacky Chu

GRADUATE AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Epidemiology (Masters Program)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Paracrine effect of human stem cell-derived progenitor cells on remodeling of the vagina.** *NPJ Regenerative medicine*
  Yu, B., Wen, Y., Kim, K. J., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Chen, B.
  2025

- **Interstitial Cystitis/Bladder Pain Syndrome: Why a Global Patient Registry Is Critically Needed.** *Neurourology and urodynamics*

Mezes, C., Niimi, A., Kasyan, G., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Malde, S.
2025

- **Ex-vivo functional and mechanical assessment of human endopelvic fascia in men undergoing radical prostatectomy.** *World journal of urology*
  Abdalla, A. S., Chen, H., Kolawole, F. O., Nolley, R., Kao, C. S., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Gill, H. S.
  2025; 43 (1): 209
- **PROCEDURAL PAIN DISCOMFORT IN PATIENTS UNDERGOING INTERVENTIONS IN A UROLOGY CLINIC**
  Herbert, A. S., Zwaschka, T. A., Mohammad, A., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  WILEY.2025: S191-S192
- **miR-203 modulates pregnant myometrium contractility via transient receptor potential vanilloid 4 channel expression.** *FASEB journal : official publication of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology*
  Ying, L., Fornes, D. D., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Ansari, J. R., Alvira, C. M., Cornfield, D. N.
  2024; 38 (22): e70173
- **Functional outcome of the anterior vaginal wall in a pelvic surgery injury rat model after treatment with stem cell-derived progenitors of smooth muscle cells.** *Stem cell research & therapy*
  Wang, Y., Wen, Y., Kim, K., Wu, H., Zhang, J., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Chen, B.
  2024; 15 (1): 291
- **Functional outcome of the anterior vaginal wall in a pelvic surgery injury rat model after treatment with stem cell-derived progenitors of smooth muscle cells.** *Research square*
  Wang, Y., Wen, Y., Kim, K., Wu, H., Zhang, J., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Chen, B.
  2024
- **Utilization and Cost of Gender-affirming Surgery in the United States from 2012-2019.** *Annals of surgery*
  Chu, J., Nagpal, M., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2024
- **Mechanisms of oxidative stress in interstitial cystitis/bladder pain syndrome.** *Nature reviews. Urology*
  Mohammad, A., Laboulaye, M. A., Shenhar, C., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2024
- **Long-term effects of vaginal surgery and endogenous ovarian hormones on the vagina and bladder.** *Sexual medicine*
  Ho, T., Zhang, J., Wen, Y., Guo, S., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Chen, B.
  2023; 11 (6): qfad063
- **The Potential Role of Persister Cells in Urinary Tract Infections.** *Current urology reports*
  Durrani, B., Mohammad, A., Ljubetic, B. M., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2023
- **Pathophysiologic Insights into the Transition from Asymptomatic Bacteriuria to Urinary Tract Infection.** *Current urology reports*
  Ljubetic, B. M., Mohammad, A., Durrani, B., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2023
- **Our 11 year experience with percutaneous tibial nerve stimulation (PTNS) in men and women for the treatment of interstitial cystitis / bladder pain syndrome (IC/BPS).** *Urology*
  Abdalla, A. S., Berquist, S. W., Mohammad, A., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2023
- **Urodynamic and urethral pressure profilometry findings in women with voiding phase dysfunction treated with surgical urethrolysis.** *Canadian Urological Association journal = Journal de l'Association des urologues du Canada*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Comiter, C. V., Deb, S.
  2023
- **Outcomes of Aquablation in men with acute and chronic urinary retention.** *Urology*
  Burton, C. S., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Comiter, C. V.
  2023

- **FUNCTIONAL AND HISTOLOGIC CHANGES OF THE VAGINA IN A RODENT MODEL FOR ANTERIOR VAGINAL PROLAPSE**
  Chen, B., Guo, S., Ho, D., Wen, Y., Zhang, J., Dobberfuhl, A.
  WILEY.2023: S42-S43
- **UTILIZATION OF GENDER-AFFIRMING SURGERY IN THE UNITED STATES FROM 2012-2019**
  Chu, J., Nagpal, M., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  WILEY.2023: S177-S179
- **A NOVEL TECHNIQUE OF ADMINISTERING PRECISE PELVIC FLOOR TRIGGER POINT INJECTIONS WITH ELECTRICAL STIMULATION FEEDBACK**
  Burton, C. S., Herbert, A., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  WILEY.2023: S152-S153
- **SPONTANEOUS VOIDING IN MEN WITH AND WITHOUT URINARY RETENTION UNDERGOING AQUABLATION**
  Burton, C. S., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Comiter, C. V.
  WILEY.2023: S275-S276
- **PERIPHERAL CIRCADIAN RHYTHMS OF THE BLADDER IN PATIENTS WITH NOCTURIA**
  Mohammad, A., Han, S., Berquist, S. W., Beachy, P. A., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  WILEY.2023: S11-S13
- **Pathophysiology, assessment, and treatment of overactive bladder symptoms in patients with interstitial cystitis/bladder pain syndrome.** *Neurourology and urodynamics*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2022
- **The evolution of incontinence into resolved, refractory and de novo urgency urinary incontinence following sling placement at time of prolapse repair in a large urodynamic cohort.** *Investigative and clinical urology*
  Zhang, X., Shaffer, R. K., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2021
- **Trigone as a diagnostic and therapeutic target for bladder-centric interstitial cystitis/bladder pain syndrome.** *International urogynecology journal*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., van Uem, S., Versi, E.
  2021
- **Statewide Success of Staged Sacral Neuromodulation for the Treatment of Urinary Complaints in California (2005-2011)** *Female pelvic medicine & reconstructive surgery*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Mahal, A., Dallas, K. B., Choi, K. M., Comiter, C. V., Elliott, C. S.
  2018: 437-442
- **Estrogen replacement is protective to the effect of in vitro hypoxia on female rabbit bladder and pelvic floor contractile response.** *Investigative and clinical urology*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Schuler, C., Leggett, R. E., De, E. J., Levin, R. M.
  2020; 61 (4): 432–40
- **Characterizing relaxin receptor expression and exploring relaxin's effect on tissue remodeling/fibrosis in the human bladder.** *BMC urology*
  Diaz, E. C., Briggs, M., Wen, Y., Zhuang, G., Wallace, S. L., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Kao, C., Chen, B. C.
  2020; 20 (1): 44
- **Optogenetic chronic neuromodulation of the diabetic cystopathy mouse model - functional effect**
  Wallace, S., Briggs, M., Wen, Y., Tran, D., Montgomery, K., Zhuang, G., Dobberfuhl, A., Delp, S., Chen, B.
  WILEY.2020: S47–S48
- **The mechanical stop test and isovolumetric detrusor contractile reserve are associated with immediate spontaneous voiding after transurethral resection of prostate** *INTERNATIONAL UROLOGY AND NEPHROLOGY*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Zhang, X., Comiter, C. V.
  2020; 52 (2): 239-246
- **Statewide Success of Staged Sacral Neuromodulation for the Treatment of Urinary Complaints in California (2005-2011).** *Female pelvic medicine & reconstructive surgery*

Dobberfuhl, A. D., Mahal, A. n., Dallas, K. B., Choi, K. M., Comiter, C. V., Elliott, C. S.
2020; 26 (7): 437–42

- **Spontaneous voiding is surprisingly recoverable via outlet procedure in men with underactive bladder and documented detrusor underactivity on urodynamics.** *Neurourology and urodynamics*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Chen, A., Alkaram, A. F., De, E. J.
  2019
- **Evaluation and treatment of female stress urinary incontinence after pelvic radiotherapy** *NEUROUROLOGY AND URODYNAMICS*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2019; 38: S59–S69
- **Urodynamic factors associated with the large capacity bladder and incomplete emptying after prolapse repair (2009-2015)** *NEUROUROLOGY AND URODYNAMICS*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Shaffer, R. K., Goodman, S. N., Chen, B. H.
  2019; 38 (5): 1322–31
- **Are Fibroid and Bony Pelvis Characteristics Associated with Urinary and Pelvic Symptom Severity?** *American journal of obstetrics and gynecology*
  Shaffer, R. K., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Vu, K., Fast, A. M., Dababou, S., Marrocchio, C., Lum, D. A., Hovsepian, D. M., Ghanouni, P., Chen, B.
  2019
- **Transvaginal ultrasound guided trigone and bladder injection: A cadaveric feasibility study for a novel route of intradetrusor chemodenervation** *INVESTIGATIVE AND CLINICAL UROLOGY*
  Syan, R., Briggs, M. A., Olivas, J. C., Srivastava, S., Comiter, C., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2019; 60 (1): 40–45
- **Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma agonist as a novel treatment for interstitial cystitis: A rat model.** *Investigative and clinical urology*
  Mahal, A., Young-Lin, N., Dobberfuhl, A., Estes, J., Comiter, C. V.
  2018; 59 (4): 257–62
- **Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma agonist as a novel treatment for interstitial cystitis: A rat model** *INVESTIGATIVE AND CLINICAL UROLOGY*
  Mahal, A., Young-Lin, N., Dobberfuhl, A., Estes, J., Comiter, C.
  2018; 59 (4): 257–62
- **A Systematic Approach to the Evaluation and Management of the Failed Artificial Urinary Sphincter.** *Current urology reports*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Comiter, C. V.
  2017; 18 (3): 18-?
- **Chapter 9: Uterosacral Ligament Vaginal Vault Suspension** *Native Tissue Repair for Incontinence and Prolapse*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., De, E. J.
  Springer International Publishing.2017: 131–142
- **Loss of expression of protein phosphatase magnesium-dependent 1A during kidney injury promotes fibrotic maladaptive repair** *FASEB JOURNAL*
  Samarakoon, R., Rehfuss, A., Khakoo, N. S., Falke, L. L., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Helo, S., Overstreet, J. M., Goldschmeding, R., Higgins, P. J.
  2016; 30 (10): 3308-3320
- **A Novel Cystometric Model of Pelvic Floor Dysfunction After Rabbit Pelvic Floor Noxious Electrical Stimulation** *FEMALE PELVIC MEDICINE AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Spettel, S., Schuler, C., Dubin, A. H., Levin, R. M., De, E. J.
  2016; 22 (4): 248-253
- **The artificial urinary sphincter and male sling for postprostatectomy incontinence: Which patient should get which procedure?** *Investigative and clinical urology*
  Comiter, C. V., Dobberfuhl, A. D.
  2016; 57 (1): 3-13
- **Initial Evaluation and Management of Acute Urinary Retention** *AUA Update Series*

Dobberfuhl, A. D., Comiter, C. V.
2016; 35: 95-104

- **Noxious electrical stimulation of the pelvic floor and vagina induces transient voiding dysfunction in a rabbit survival model of pelvic floor dystonia.** *Korean journal of urology*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Spettel, S., Schuler, C., Levin, R. M., Dubin, A. H., De, E. J.
  2015; 56 (12): 837-844
- **Female stress urinary incontinence and the mid-urethral sling: Is obstruction necessary to achieve dryness?** *WORLD JOURNAL OF UROLOGY*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., De, E. J.
  2015; 33 (9): 1243-1250
- **Loss of tumour suppressor PTEN expression in renal injury initiates SMAD3-and p53-dependent fibrotic responses** *JOURNAL OF PATHOLOGY*
  Samarakoon, R., Helo, S., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Khakoo, N. S., Falke, L., Overstreet, J. M., Goldschmeding, R., Higgins, P. J.
  2015; 236 (4): 421-432
- **Identification of CNS Neurons Innervating the Levator Ani and Ventral Bulbospongiosus Muscles in Male Rats** *JOURNAL OF SEXUAL MEDICINE*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Oti, T., Sakamoto, H., Marson, L.
  2014; 11 (3): 664-677
- **Evaluation & Treatment of Overactive Bladder** *AUA University: Core Curriculum*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., De, E. J.
  American Urological Association.2014
- **Induction of renal fibrotic genes by TGF-beta 1 requires EGFR activation, p53 and reactive oxygen species** *CELLULAR SIGNALLING*
  Samarakoon, R., Dobberfuhl, A. D., Cooley, C., Overstreet, J. M., Patel, S., Goldschmeding, R., Meldrum, K. K., Higgins, P. J.
  2013; 25 (11): 2198-2209
- **Ureteral Obstruction-Induced Renal Fibrosis: An In Vivo Platform for Mechanistic Discovery and Therapeutic Intervention.** *Cell & developmental biology*
  Dobberfuhl, A. D., Samarakoon, R., Higgins, C. E., Mian, B. M., Overstreet, J. M., Higgins, S. P., Kogan, B. A., Higgins, P. J.
  2012; 1 (3)